

Request Reference: 233-17

Date of Response: 19/12/2017

Request

I refer to your recent email dated 20/11/2017 requesting the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("FOIA"):

"I am writing to request the number of people being charged interest at RPI plus 3pc because they haven't responded to SLC's request for information (as described in the link below).

Please provide this figure for the current year (so far) and for the past three years.

Please DO NOT include the people being charged RPI plus 3pc for any other reason (i.e. salary).

<https://www.slc.co.uk/students-and-customers/loan-repayment/interest-rates.aspx>"

Response

Your request has been interpreted as the number of student loan borrowers who have been charged non-compliance interest rates ("NCR"). NCR only apply to plan 2 Income Contingent Repayment ("ICR") student loans (hereinafter referred to as "plan 2 loans"), which were taken out by borrowers who started a full-time or part-time course on or after 01/09/2012 and live in England or Wales, or are an EU student funded by England or Wales. The first tranche of Plan 2 ICR loans entered repayment in April 2016. Accordingly, the NCR only came into effect in April 2016, and was not applied to the accounts of any Plan 2 ICR borrowers before this date. Accordingly, only one full year's worth of data is available – for financial year 2016-17. Partial data for financial year 2017-18 is available – for April to October 2017.

Please refer to the attached spreadsheet for the NCR data. Please refer to the notes and caveats associated with the data.